**Habitecture**
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# Toronto metro

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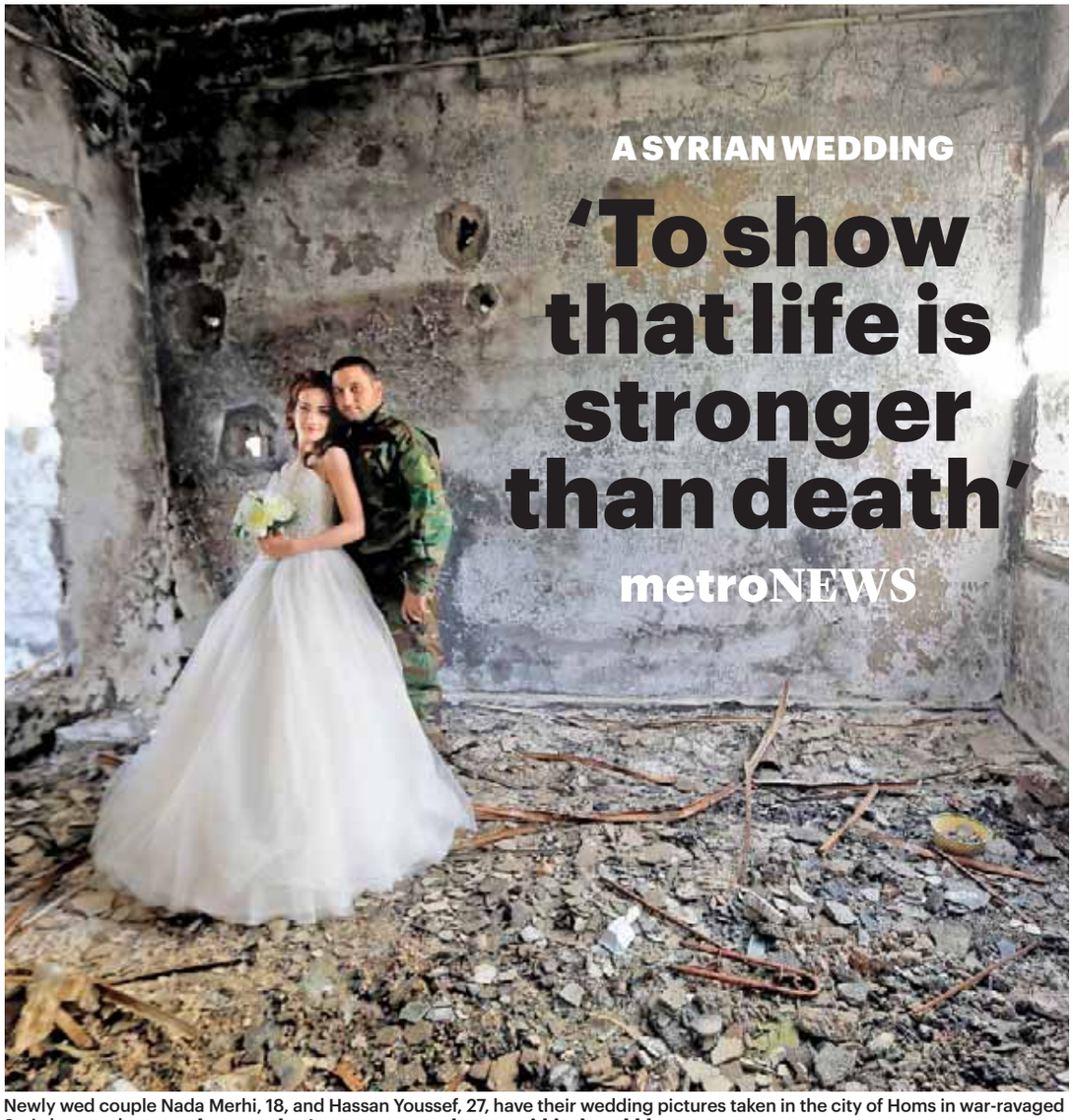

A SYRIAN WEDDING

## 'To show that life is stronger than death'

metroNEWS

Newly wed couple Nada Merhi, 18, and Hassan Youssef, 27, have their wedding pictures taken in the city of Homs in war-ravaged Syria last week — **one photographer's attempt to see beauty within the rubble.** AFP/JOSEPH EIDJOSEPH EID/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

# Crown's hands tied

ANALYSIS

## Ghomeshi trial woes couldn't be avoided, expert says

Some former Crown attorneys say that prosecutors tasked with proving sexual assault allegations against Jian Ghomeshi could not have done much to avert the eyebrow-raising spectacle unfolding at his trial in recent days.

Scenes in the Toronto courtroom where the fallen CBC star is standing trial have featured changing witness statements, withering cross-examination and seemingly surprise emails and photographs that have the capacity to cast doubt on the Crown's case.

But the one-time prosecutors say much of the case is at the mercy of the police investigation that led to the charges in the first place.

The onus is on officers to obtain as much detail as possible, question complainants for any additional facts, suss out any other sources of potential evidence and verify as much material as possible.

Such investigations are particularly challenging when the alleged offences took place years ago, experts said, adding prosecutors can do little more than repeat questions that the witness has already been asked.

Lisa Ridgedale, a former Crown attorney now working at a private practice in Vancouver, said there's only so much chief prosecutor Michael Callaghan could do as he built his case against Ghomeshi.

"He couldn't have prepared for it in any other way other than to warn the witnesses when he was meeting with them initially that 'I've read your statements. Are you sure that's all there is to it? Is there anything more? Have you made other statements to anybody else? Have you recorded these events anywhere else? If so I need to see that," Ridgedale said.

The Ghomeshi trial has featured several prominent instances of past statements or long-ago correspondences exposing potential holes or contradictions in witness accounts.

Defence lawyer Marie Henein has subjected two of Ghomeshi's accusers to blistering cross-examinations aimed at raising questions about their ability to accurately recollect events and even their basic honesty. THE CANADIAN PRESS


**GHOMESHI TRIAL WEEK 2** | 'His hands were around my neck and he was squeezing' PAGE 6

metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

Group seeks to 'kill, harm and harass' threatened species. Canada

IMMIGRATION

# Ontario on track for 10K refugees

Premier Kathleen Wynne says despite "challenges," Ontario is on track to receive 10,000 Syrian refugees by the end of this month.

The federal government is aiming to settle 25,000 refugees by the end of February, with about two-thirds expected to be government-assisted.

About 7,000 Syrian refugees have already settled in Ontario since Dec. 10, and on Monday the premier announced details of some of the funding committed to helping them.

The Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants is receiving about $343,000 for trauma and mental-health training for front-line workers as well as a public education campaign, and COSTI Immigrant Services is receiving $283,000 to deliver workshops and orientation resources to refugees.

That money is part of the $8.5 million Ontario pledged over 2-1/2 years to support refugees.

Wynne says the refugee resettlement has "been a remarkable success story," though she admits there have been "some timing issues." THE CANADIAN PRESS

# 'So happy' to be in school

EDUCATION

## Project allows for Syrian kids to get back into the classroom

A string of pop-up classrooms arranged to give young refugees a taste of school while they wait for new homes delighted Syrian families Monday at the west-end Toronto Plaza Hotel.

"A-B-C! — happy!" said a beaming 12-year-old Dalaa al Sarji, who, like most Syrian refugee children arriving in Canada, hadn't been in a classroom in more than two years.

She and her six siblings — from three-year-old Hussein to 14-year-old twin brothers — were among some 75 children living temporarily at the Plaza who hopped on school buses Monday in an unusual pilot project to give these uprooted children a feel for the routine of school in satellite classrooms while they wait to find out where their new homes, and permanent schools, will be.

"We did reading — and the teacher was so pretty," reported brother Said through an interpreter. Noted 14-year-old Ahmed: "I like school in Canada so much; everyone makes us welcome."

Concerned that housing delays were leaving refugee children with no way to start integrating into Canada — the average hotel stay has been about four weeks — Toronto's public and Catholic school boards scrambled together last week to find empty classrooms and hire supply teachers and Arabic interpreters to run two-hour morning classes for children while they're living at the hotel. The costs, including buses, will be covered by the province's newcomer program.

"It's the right thing to do. You can't promise people a new life and not prepare them for getting an education," said Karen Falconer, the Toronto District School Board's executive superintendent of Continuing and International Education.

> **"I like school in Canada so much; everyone makes us welcome."**
> Ahmed, 14

Some 265 refugee children are living at the hotel at the moment. Only 75 took part in the morning programs Monday, although twice as many have signed up for Tuesday.

"I understand why many of these parents aren't comfortable at first with the idea of putting their kids on a school bus and letting them go," said Falconer. "We have to build trust."

Only four of 25 teens living at the hotel signed up for the high-school program Monday, "but we know that will increase. It's our moral imperative to help acclimatize these kids to our education system and our country," said Nick D'Avella, superintendent of student success for the Toronto Catholic District School Board.

Both the TDSB and its Catholic counterpart are offering to bus hotel children up to age six and their parents to parenting centres in nearby schools. Dalaa's father, Mohamad Ali al Ahmed al Sarji, took his three youngest, aged 3, 4 and 6, to the Parenting and Family Literacy Centre at nearby Chalkfarm Public School on Monday.

"I was playing with my children there. They were given toys, and everyone celebrated a child's birthday. They were so happy," he said through an interpreter who works with COSTI Immigration Services, the agency that has set up settlement services at the hotel.

"The children were so happy to be at school today. They came back saying, 'Thank you! We loved it!'" said COSTI senior director Josie Di Zio. As families start finding homes, Di Zio said the bottleneck at the hotel is easing, but newcomers arrive every few days and that will continue for months to come. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

**Dalaa al Sarji, 12,** is one of the Syrian refugee children who got the chance to go to school after not being in a classroom for more than two years. LUCAS OLENIUK/TORONTO STAR

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TRANSIT

# TTC-GO pilot fares poorly

Price matters. That's the inescapable conclusion of a year-long test of a combined TTC-GO fare that attracted a disappointing 882 riders, says Councillor Mike Layton.

The fare integration pilot program didn't have the affordability or the flexibility to attract Toronto commuters, said Layton.

It points to the complex problems Metrolinx faces in developing a region-wide fare policy, said one senior official at the provincial agency.

The co-fare pilot also comes as Mayor John Tory's SmartTrack plan is being developed with an eye to putting more commuters on the GO — a plan he has said is based on allowing residents to ride for the price of a TTC fare.

That's critical, said Layton. Only 74 TTC riders a month forked over an extra $60 for a sticker on their Metropass allowing them a faster, roomier ride downtown on GO trains between Exhibition and Danforth stations.

"I suspect that if we made it a more inexpensive fare that we would have seen more use of that," he said.

A ridership study of SmartTrack, released last month, showed it would attract only about a third as many riders if the cost was a higher GO-level fare.

Making the GO premium contingent on the $141.50 monthly cost of a Metropass may have also discouraged some riders from buying into the year-long test on the GO Lakeshore lines, said Layton. Commuters in the Liberty Village area of his ward might want to use GO only one way or bike or walk sometimes, he said.

He thinks the GO fare should come at the same $3.25 it costs to ride the TTC. The Presto card being rolled out across the TTC this year would also do away with the need to commit to a monthly pass. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

## Turtles

**The problem:** Slow-moving turtles trying to reach new habitats are easy prey for cars.
**The solution:** Other cities have added culverts and fencing to areas with high animal populations, helping wildlife cross safely underneath roadways.

COURTESY FLAP CANADA

## Birds

**The problem:** Thousands of migratory songbirds die in Toronto every year after colliding with glass buildings.
**The solution:** A number of after-market products allow building owners to bird-proof their windows.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

## Raccoons

**The problem:** Raccoons and other wildlife have proven adept at feasting on our garbage, leading to unnecessary conflicts with humans and animals.
**The solution:** Toronto has already ordered new "raccoon-proof" green bins, but habitecture proponents say there could be mutually beneficial ways to address the issue.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

## Bats

**The problem:** Bat populations in Ontario have been hit hard by habitat loss and white-nose syndrome.
**The solution:** Urban initiatives like green roofs can help restore some of the habitat for local bats.

# It's all about 'habitecture'

DEVELOPMENT

## Infrastructure projects should look at wildlife impact: Experts

Luke Simcoe
Metro | Toronto

Toronto is busy revamping roads and other infrastructure used by its human population, but a growing number of experts say it's time to do the same for our animal denizens.

"Toronto is one of the fastest growing cities in North America and it's really at the centre of the complex relationship between urban and wild spaces," said Susan Ruddick, a geography professor at the University of Toronto and the organizer of a recent conference on the topic of "habitecture."

According to Ruddick, habitecture is "the conscious design of architecture and infrastructure with wildlife in mind."

While the city has taken steps to better accommodate local animals — including installing culverts along major highways and creating new habitat in areas like Leslie Spit — Ruddick and her colleagues believe more needs to be done.

"We're really failing migratory birds," said Nathalie Karvonen of the Toronto Wildlife Centre. "It's an enormous challenge for birds — and bats — to navigate our city with all these glass structures everywhere."

Thousands of songbirds fatally collide with glass towers and buildings in Toronto every year, Karvonen said. The city passed a bylaw requiring new buildings to be bird friendly, but it only applies to structures built after 2010.

Ducks and geese are also nesting atop of tall buildings in the city, which Karvonen said causes problems when their young become trapped on roofs.

"They can't get down and there's not enough food or water to support them," she said.

Intern architect Sarah Gunawan says much of the existing habitecture in Toronto takes the form of deterrents — think about the pigeon spikes in your local subway station. She'd like to see the city be more welcoming for wildlife.

"An architecture that considers animals has the potential to think not only about the animals that we have direct confrontations with currently, but it can also invite other species to move into these zones," she said.

Gunawan spoke at the recent habitecture conference and hopes it will act as a "turning point" for Toronto.

"Species are moving into the city whether we like it or not," she said. "It's happening and we, as a society, need to learn to deal with it."

### INNOVATION RACCOON GARDENERS?

As part of her master's thesis, Sarah Gunawan designed a raccoon-powered composting machine that doubled as habitat for chimney swifts.

The device utilized a crank that could be turned by a raccoon to release a "tiny morsel" of food waste while helping turn the compost inside.

"The idea was to employ the raccoon," Gunawan said.

"They can already get into our compost bins, so why not teach them to contribute in some way."

Gunawan acknowledges the idea was "tongue in cheek," but said it's an example of how we can think about better incorporating animals into urban spaces.

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FRAUD

# Guard your identity from thieves: police

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

If you get a letter from a payday loan shop, don't dismiss it as just an advertisement. It could be a sign that your identity has been stolen, police say.

Toronto police have uncovered what they're calling a large fraud ring that started with the arrest of 45-year-old Gideon Jericho Garcia last month.

Garcia was charged with 45 offences in connection with stealing the identity of 13 victims across the GTA. Since then, more victims have come forward.

It prompted a warning Monday with police advising people to put locks their mailboxes and check their credit histories.

"Many people just don't realize this has happened until it's too late," said Const. Jon Morrice, a community safety officer with 55 Division.

The type of fraud involved can be both low- and high-tech, Morrice said.

At its most basic level, people root through mailboxes until they find government identification. They then use that at places like payday loan stores to cash stolen paycheques or fake cheques and take out loans.

Victims, meanwhile, are left with debt and a marred credit history unless the police are able to determine there's been a crime, he said.

Police allege Garcia employed relatively sophisticated equipment at a lab in the area of Parliament and Bloor to create fake IDs based on personal information stolen through the mail.

People should check their credit histories, especially if they've received mail related to their finances or have had a piece of identification go missing, police said. Getting a letter from a financial institution or payday loan store welcoming you as a new customer — when you haven't opened an account there — is also considered a red flag.

> **Many people just don't realize ... until it's too late.**
> Const. John Morrice

## ROADS

**Cyclist dies of injuries**

A 76-year-old Richmond Hill man has died, a week after he was hit by an SUV while cycling along Waterhouse Way Jan. 30.

At the time, he told the driver of the SUV that hit him that he was all right.

On Feb. 1, police were told that the man's condition had become worse. He remained in hospital until Saturday, Feb. 6, when he died of his injuries. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

# 25-year sentence for 'unspeakable horror'

SUITCASE MURDER

## Teen weighed 50 pounds when her father killed her

A man who drowned or starved his horrifically abused teenaged daughter to death two decades ago was handed a life sentence Monday, after court heard impact statements from three of the victim's relatives.

Everton Biddersingh, 60, of Toronto, had little to say before Superior Court Justice Al O'Marra handed down the punishment for the "horrible" crime.

"It will make no difference," Biddersingh mumbled to the court.

A jury last month convicted Biddersingh of first-degree murder in the death of his 17-year-old daughter, Melonie Biddersingh. He will not be eligible for parole for 25 years.

In a written impact statement, the victim's mother described the devastation she felt after learning in 2012 that her daughter's charred remains had finally been identified.

"There is nothing — I mean absolutely nothing — Melonie would have ever done that could have led to the dreadful outcome of her murder," Opal Austin said in the statement read to court.

"So, I am left wondering why for the rest of my life."

The Crown maintained Biddersingh drowned or starved his daughter after a period of prolonged abuse, or that she died while he confined her in the apartment they shared with her stepmother, Elaine Biddersingh.

**Melonie Biddersingh** HANDOUT/TORONTO POLICE SERVICE

The teen, whose burned remains were found stuffed in a suitcase in an isolated industrial area north of Toronto, had come to Canada from Jamaica for a better life. Instead, by the time of her death, she weighed a skeletal 50 pounds and had 21 broken bones in various stages of healing. A piece of a vegetable was found in her vagina.

She had spent countless hours chained to furniture, stuffed in a tiny closet, or locked out on a balcony. Her father, according to one witness, would kick her and force the helpless victim's head into a toilet and then flush.

In another statement read to court, Racquel Ellis said no words could describe the suffering inflicted on her sister.

"I remain in shock and deeply traumatized to learn of the disturbing details of my sister's days on earth," Ellis said in a statement read by Paulette Senior, CEO of YWCA Canada and a family friend.

"It's devastating to believe that the persons my mother entrusted with her children's happiness, safety and life would do such a horrible thing."

Neither Austin nor Ellis, who live in Kingston, Jamaica, were present Monday. Both had been in court for much of the trial.

Austin had sent her daughter and a son to live with her father and stepmother in Toronto, in 1991. The teen, who wanted to be a nurse, is believed to have died in September 1994. It was only in 2011 that Biddersingh's wife told a pastor what had happened, allowing police to finally identify the teen's remains and lay charges in March 2012.

The son, Dwayne Biddersingh, fell from his family's 22-storey west-end balcony a year after arriving in Canada in a death deemed a suicide.

O'Marra heard a victim-impact statement from another sister, then passed sentence, saying Biddersingh deserved the maximum allowable punishment.

"Her life with you was an unspeakable horror," O'Marra said.

The teen's stepmother, Elaine Biddersingh, 54, faces her own first-degree murder trial in April. THE CANADIAN PRESS

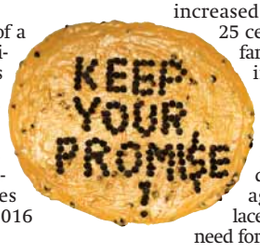
# Raising dough for the city

MUNICIPAL BUDGET

## Bake sale profits to be donated — to make a point

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

Teresa Tolak recognizes the city is a little short on money right now. So, like a good neighbour, she's organizing a bake sale to help out.




Tolak is part of a coalition of anti-poverty groups hosting a bake sale in front of city hall Tuesday as the mayor's executive committee discusses the proposed 2016 budget.

The sale is a way to draw attention to what critics consider too little funding for anti-poverty initiatives. But, in that good neighbour spirit, organizers plan to donate what they raise — expected to ring in at a couple of hundred dollars — to the city. Consider it a new "revenue tool" to help pay for services.

"The idea is to show that we're doing our part in raising money, and now we want to see city council do their part," said Joel Klassen.

The budget proposal includes about $6 million in new funding to initiate pieces of the city's poverty reduction strategy. But advocates want the city to freeze TTC fares, build affordable housing and offer more subsidized child-care spots.

The cost to ride the TTC increased in January by 25 cents for a single fare, trapping low-income people geographically, said Tolak.

The executive committee will discuss city manager Peter Wallace's report on the need for revenue tools.

"The city requires revenues that increase annually to help fund city services and hence it is not sustainable to keep total taxes below the rate of inflation," the report says. "In order to reach financial sustainability and balance its budget, city council needs to mature the city's governance and decision-making process and set priorities based on public needs."

**ABOVE:** Members of Commitment 2 Community, Alliance for a Poverty-Free Toronto and TTC Riders prepare for the bake sale at city hall. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

## BEYOND TAXES MONEY WELCOME

**The City of Toronto accepts voluntary gifts**

The City of Toronto accepts donations, but not usually in the form of bake sale proceeds. Residents can make "voluntary contributions" of up to $50,000 in support of a city service area of their choice or directly to general revenues, via mail, your property tax bill or at property tax counters at city hall. Over the past four years, 214 people donated a total of $22,484 on top of their property taxes.

## IN BRIEF

**Goodwill seeking bankruptcy protection**

Goodwill Industries is seeking bankruptcy protection in Ontario as it tries to restructure.

CEO Keiko Nakamura said in a statement that it is trying to preserve assets for its main creditors — former employees.

The corporation may make a proposal to those creditors which, if approved, would annul the bankruptcy and allow the corporation to reopen some stores.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Help name Toronto Zoo's twin baby panda cubs**

To celebrate the Lunar New Year, the Toronto Zoo is having a competition to name its twin panda cubs.

You'll be able to choose from seven different pairs of male and female names, all Chinese words or idioms that also play on the cubs' Canadian home like Duo Pengyou for "Toronto friend."

You can vote until Feb. 28 via TorontoZoo.com.

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**Jian Ghomeshi** leaves a Toronto court after day four of his trial on Friday. A third complainant took the stand at the trial on Monday. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Witness says she spotted 'pattern'

GHOMESHI TRIAL

## Woman tells about incident at park with ex-CBC host

Spotting similarities in Jian Ghomeshi's behaviour to other women, the third complainant testifying in his sexual assault trial decided to make a report to police about her own encounter with the CBC host back in 2003.

"I recognized a pattern because of what I had gone through," the woman testified in court Monday. A fourth witness — court was not told the identity — will be called to testify later this week.

Testifying as the second week of the high-profile trial got underway, the woman explained how, in 2003, she experienced an incident with Ghomeshi in a Toronto park after a cultural event. She said it happened while they were kissing.

"All of a sudden I felt his hands on my shoulders and his teeth … and his hands were around my neck and he was squeezing." She said she had trouble breathing with his hands around her neck. Then, she said, he put his hand on her mouth, "smothering" her.

The woman told court she buried the event in her subconscious. There were reasons she did not come forward, she told court. She was unsure if it was something the justice system would consider serious; she was worried about how an allegation against Ghomeshi would affect a family member involved in the cultural scene; and she was worried about what people would think of her.

Years later, on Oct. 26, 2014, when Ghomeshi was fired and other women told their stories, she noticed what she described in court as similar behaviour towards women. The woman testifying Monday told her story to the media first, then made a report to police.

Monday's witness was, like the two previous complainants, subjected to a rigorous cross-examination by Ghomeshi defence lawyer Marie Henein.

Henein took issue with the witness not telling police at previous under-oath interviews that in the days after the alleged assault in the park she had a sexual encounter with Ghomeshi at her home. The woman testified she performed a sex act on Ghomeshi and afterward the then-CBC host fell asleep, and left her home shortly after. The woman disclosed the sexual encounter last week and made a new statement to police.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

> **I recognized a pattern because of what I had gone through.**
> Third witness testimony


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# Canada declares an end to bombing mission on ISIL

MIDDLE EAST

## Trudeau says size of training troops to triple

Canada will end its bombing missions against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) targets within weeks as it moves to triple the size of its training contingent to assist Iraqi forces on the ground.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on Monday laid out the Liberal government's new approach to combat ISIL fighters as he announced that Canada will remain engaged until Mar. 31, 2017.

As the Liberals pledged during the election, Trudeau confirmed Monday that the bombing missions by CF-18s will end no later than Feb. 22. However, operations by two surveillance aircraft and an air-to-air refuelling jet will continue.

In its place, Canada will triple the number of the military trainers. The military now has 69 trainers on the ground in northern Iraq.

This image on a militant website shows fighters in Syria. THE CANADIAN PRESS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

As well, the government will deploy medical personnel to provide training to Iraqi forces in how to treat battlefield casualties.

Canada will also provide weapons — small arms, ammunition and optics — to help with the training of local forces.

The government also announced it was stepping up its humanitarian aid to assist with the flood of refugees fleeing the violence. Ottawa will earmark $840 million over three years to provide shelter, food, health care and other essentials.

**$270 M**

Budget for improving local capacity in education, health, water and sanitation.

The government said the changes will see the complement of military personnel dedicated to the mission rise to 830, up from 650 now.

The prior Conservatives dispatched the small team of military trainers to Iraq in September 2014. A month later, the Tories announced they were dispatching six CF-18s to begin bombing missions, as well as an air-to-air refueller and two surveillance aircraft to the region to assist in the coalition air campaign.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

metro EXCLUSIVE

## Prof got pension while dead

Joe Lofaro
Metro | Ottawa

Carleton University is trying to recoup nearly half a million dollars paid to the estate of a professor who received pension benefits while he was dead.

The university went to court to recover $497,332 from the estate of George Roseme. He suffered from Alzheimer's when he disappeared in 2007. His whereabouts were a mystery until a dog found his remains in 2013. While he was presumed missing, Roseme's friend and ex-girlfriend, Lynne Threlfall, was appointed tutor to the absentee and oversaw the monthly payment to his bank account. She was to receive payments for a maximum of seven years. Under the Civil Code of Quebec, Roseme was to be presumed alive for seven years, "unless proof of death is made."

A Superior Court of Quebec judge ruled Threlfall received payments in "error" after a 2014 coroner's report declared the date of death as Sept. 11, 2007 — two days after he went missing.

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# ‘Kill, harm and harass’ turtles

ENVIRONMENT

## Developer’s request draws attention

A request by an Ottawa development group to be allowed to “kill, harm and harass” two threatened species and destroy a butternut tree habitat on its land has garnered attention.

Kanata Lakes North Development Group put in a request for an “overall benefit permit” to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry on Jan. 4, asking for permission to:

- remove up to 120 butternut trees (endangered) on the 140 hectare site, and damage and destroy the habitat of these trees,
- kill, harm and harass Blanding’s turtles (threatened) and destroy up to 124 hectares of Blanding’s turtle habitat,
- kill, harm and harass Least bitterns (threatened) and damage up to 10.9 hectares of Least bittern habitat in order to construct a residential development.

While this drew alarm from residents and city councillor Marianne Wilkinson, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry employee Scott Lee said the application is unremarkable.

“If they weren’t looking to impact a species at risk, then they wouldn’t require a permit to allow them to do it from us,” said Lee in a separate interview.

However, what further alarmed residents like Mario Poirier, a member of the Ottawa Duck Club and wetland supporter, is that KNL’s application doesn’t say how it will achieve an overall benefit for the species they are impacting.

The permit will only be given if the proponent can show that not only are the impacts on species minimized, but that there is an overall benefit for the species, said Lee. Instead of making any promises, the application suggests only what it might do.

The request for an overall benefit permit is posted online as a summary. It is only after the comment stage that the ministry extracts promises from the proponent before a permit is given.

As for what “overall benefit” means — it’s different for each proposal, said Lee. It does not mean that there must be an overall benefit for the species on that particular site, he said. Rather, while impacts to the species on site have to be minimized, overall benefit can happen in different ways, including some of the ways KNL has mentioned. Those include collecting the seeds of butternut trees that have shown a resistance to butternut canker disease, or supporting a research project to track and monitor movements of Blanding’s turtles in remaining and/or created habitat.

ADAM KVETON/METROLAND MEDIA

KNL Development Group are asking for permission to interfere with the habitat of Blanding’s turtles like this one.

GLENN LOWSON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## IN BRIEF

**Mi’kmaq leader decries P.E.I. park honouree**

It’s a “grave insult” that a national park in P.E.I. bears the name of a general who wanted to kill aboriginal people with smallpox, says a Mi’kmaq leader.

John Joe Sark says the name of 18th-century British military commander Jeffery Amherst should be removed from the Port-la-Joye-Fort Amherst site.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Students want Ottawa to subsidize post-secondary**

Facing higher than average unemployment and a growing threat of bankruptcy, students are lobbying the federal government this month for $3.3 billion in new spending to help cover the cost of university and college education.

The largest organization for post-secondary students in Canada is calling on Ottawa to fund university and college education the same way it does health care and enshrine it in legislation.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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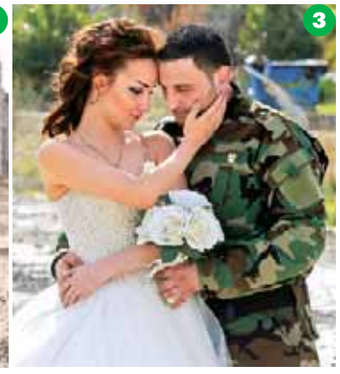


1 Newlywed Syrian couple Nada Merhi, 18, and Hassan Youssef, 27, have their wedding pictures taken in a heavily damaged building in the war-ravaged city of Homs on Feb. 5.

2 Hassan offers Nada a bouquet of flowers as she salutes him in the midst of destruction.

3 Nada and Hassan embrace one another. JOSEPH EID/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

SYRIA

# Love in the time of war

Badly damaged buildings in the war-ravaged Syrian city of Homs is the setting of a young couple's wedding pictures.

Newlyweds Nada Merhi, 18, and her husband, Syrian army soldier Hassan Youssef, 27, posed for a series of pictures on Feb. 5 among the ruins of what is left of Homs's streets and buildings after years of civil war.

Merhi wore a traditional white wedding gown. Youssef, a soldier in Syrian President Bashar Assad's army, according to multiple media outlets, wore a military uniform.

The Washington Post identified the Syrian wedding photographer as Jafar Meray. He used the destruction of Homs to his advantage "to show that life is stronger than death," according to AFP photographer Joseph Eid, who accompanied the couple and Meray on the shoot.

On his Facebook page, Meray explained that the photographs were proof that "life goes on, silently."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

TECHNOLOGY

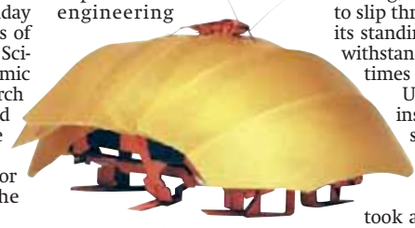
# Cockroach robots could save lives

The little cockroach, among nature's most gross and reviled creatures, could soon be saving lives. Well, a cockroach-inspired robot, that is.

A study published Monday in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences says robots that mimic cockroaches could help search and rescue missions to find survivors of disasters. These cockroach robots could also help detect gas leaks or inspect infrastructure, the study says.

"Cockroaches are fascinating," said Robert Full, a biologist at the University of California, Berkeley, and one of the study's authors.

Full and Kaushik Jayaram, a post-doctoral engineering student at Harvard University, and the other author of the study, built an obstacle course filled with crevices for the bug, and found it was able to slip through gaps a quarter its standing height and could withstand loads of nearly 900 times its body weight.



American cockroach atop a compressible robot. POLYPEDAL LAB

Using their findings as inspiration, the two researchers built a palm-sized, soft-legged robot.

The prototype took about two years and just $100 in materials to build.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

# Diner's photo wall a who's-who

NEW HAMPSHIRE PRIMARY

## Staff recalls run-ins with would-be U.S. presidents

These diner waitresses carry anecdotes of presidential candidates like so many plates of barbecued steak tips and Hungry Boy Specials.

The wall of pictures attests to the famous names who have wandered into MaryAnn's Diner over the years: Bill Clinton, Al Gore, Rudy Giuliani, John McCain, Chris Christie and, just the other day, Jeb and Barbara Bush.

While scarfing down a corned-beef hash, a customer says he saw Hillary Clinton twice in the same day last week.

Welcome to New Hampshire.

Being a small state that hosts an early primary means that, every fourth February, residents see their main streets, eateries and high-school gyms inundated with people aspiring to lead the free world.

The women reminisce about their all-time favourite customer. It's a landslide: the 42nd president, who worked table after table and then, when he was finished, went outside and did the same thing down the block.

"Bill Clinton," said manager Linda Guilnet, who's worked at the diner since its 1989 opening.

"He just went around to every-body. Then took a walk outside. He went down to the lights and came back."

> We're making a decision for the rest of the nation. To at least help narrow the field. Ari Pollack

Another waitress says former first lady Barbara Bush was there with the latest family member to seek the presidency. Jeb seemed alright, they said. But his mom was a delight.

A few towns away, another New Hampsherite is less impressed that Bush hauled out the family. Ari Pollack says he's been considering voting for Bush, but thinks leaning on mom smacks slightly of desperation.

Pollack has seen five different candidates in this election cycle. He would have seen a sixth, but the Hillary Clinton rally was full and he couldn't get in.

"It's a fun environment to be in," Pollack says. "It will all come to an end on Tuesday."

Some will be thrilled to see it conclude. The waitresses complain about media cameras bumping into customers.

Pollack is less cynical. He says his state has an important responsibility: "We're making a decision for the rest of the nation. To at least help narrow the field, to put some candidates in front of the rest of the nation that have been vetted," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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# Battle for shoppers

RETAIL

## Clothing sector faces challenging years ahead

Industry watchers say Canada's retail clothing sector is expected to slow in the coming few years, even though the battle for luxury shoppers is revving up.

After two years of growth approaching four per cent, sales are forecast to slow and bottom out to a mere one per cent increase in 2018, says Trendex North America, a marketing research firm specializing in the clothing industry.

This year's sales are expected to grow by 2.4 per cent versus 3.8 per cent last year, slipping to 1.7 per cent growth in 2017 before inching back up to 2.1 per cent growth in 2020, Trendex said in a 2016 retail apparel market forecast.

The low Canadian dollar is going to put pressure on retailers' margins and force them to offset higher costs by hiking prices, perhaps by three to five per cent.

**Shoppers check out the Nordstrom store in Calgary.** The U.S. retailer is expanding its presence in Canada with three new locations in Toronto this year and next. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

But the luxury segment should help ease the sluggishness in the low- to mid-priced sector as Saks Fifth Avenue makes its Canadian entry this month with the opening of two Toronto stores and U.S. retailer Nordstrom expands its presence with three new locations in Toronto.

The openings will give wealthier Canadians a reason to shop at home instead of travelling to global fashion centres such as New York while also attracting Americans looking to take advantage of the low loonie.

Increased competition will erode Holt Renfrew's dominance in the luxury segment at least initially as customers visit the new retail options, said Jean Rickli, a retail consultant for the J.C. Williams Group.

**Artist sketch of the new Saks department stores,** opening in Toronto this spring. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

"If Nordstrom is true to their word on customer experience, it's going to be tough going for Holt Renfrew," he said.

But he added that the Canadian chain has made some headway by making plans to expand its Vancouver store later this year and opening two hr2 outlet stores on the outskirts of Montreal and Toronto that appeal to millennial shoppers.

Luxury menswear retailer Harry Rosen has also prepared for beefed-up competition by enlarging four of its stores and adding three locations last year. THE CANADIAN PRESS

HOUSEHOLD DEBT

## Interest rate hike not only tool: BoC

The Bank of Canada's benchmark interest rate needs help in shoring up the financial system from growing risks like rising consumer indebtedness, deputy governor Timothy Lane said in a speech Monday.

Increased government spending, also known as fiscal stimulus, and regulatory changes to curb the accumulation of household debt are other tools that can be used alongside monetary policy, Lane said. "One thing is clear: monetary policy alone cannot be responsible for maintaining financial stability," he said in a speech at the HEC Montreal business school.

Lane said the central bank has identified the combination of climbing household debt and elevated house prices as the financial system's most concerning vulnerability.

This weak spot has been exacerbated by the use of monetary policy, which has led to an extended era of low interest rates.

Lane also highlighted other measures that can help shield the financial system, such as the tightened mortgage financing rules introduced in recent years. THE CANADIAN PRESS

### IN BRIEF

**National Bank to write off investment in Maple Bank**

National Bank says it will write off the $165-million value of its investment in Maple Financial Group, which operates Maple Bank in Germany. Maple Bank's business activities were suspended on the weekend by Germany's regulator. THE CANADIAN PRESS

### market minute

**DOLLAR** 71.77¢ (–0.13¢)

**TSX** 12,535.40 (–228.59)

**OIL** $29.69 US (–$1.20)

**GOLD** $1,197.90 US (+$40.20)

**NATURAL GAS:** $2.140 US (+7.7¢)
**DOW JONES:** 16,027.05 (–177.92)

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**PHILOSOPHER CAT** by Jason Logan

## Visible signs of inclusion are integral steps in abolishing the bias, fear and ignorance that lead to homophobia. Pride Tape is a simple, easy and low-cost way of announcing your support for the LGBTQ community.

**— BRIAN BURKE**

The Burke family is always looking for ways to show our support for the LGBTQ community. I was very excited when I met Jeff McLean, investor in Pride Tape, and thrilled when the Edmonton Oilers used it during their skills competition. We can't wait to bring it to Calgary once it is fully in production.

Visible signs of inclusion like these are integral steps in abolishing the bias, fear and ignorance that lead to homophobia. Through amazing initiatives and organizations such as Pride Tape, Pride parades, You Can Play and Canadian Safe Schools Network, steady progress is being made.

Pride Tape is cool because it's a simple, easy and low-cost way of announcing your support for the LGBTQ community in a team sports environment — the very message that You Can Play carries forward every day.

This issue has been vitally important to me since my late son, Brendan, came out to us all. Brendan was a wonderful young man and he came out in a very public and courageous way.

Since we lost Brendan, our family has been dedicated to furthering the causes and goals of the LGBTQ community. I am only sorry that this wasn't a priority for me much earlier in my life.

People ask me how they can help. I always tell them the same thing: Take three steps in your life. First, practise and teach acceptance in your home and workplace. The best thing about Brendan coming out was that I didn't have to take anything back. No hatred was allowed in my house. No racial humour, no homophobic language — nothing allowed. It was the same at work.

Second, take a positive, affirmative step on behalf of the group — join PFLAG, You Can Play or the Canadian Safe Schools Network. Volunteer. Write a cheque. Join a Gay-Straight Alliance. March in a Pride Parade. Engage with your local LGBTQ community. It's easy to say that you care — prove it!

And finally, work actively to end homophobia and bullying. Intervene if you can; report it if you can't.

I long for the day when these badges of honour and acceptance on behalf of the LGBTQ community are no longer necessary. But sadly, right now, they are. Join us in this fight against bias, fear and ignorance!

**Brian Burke** is the president of hockey operations for the Calgary Flames. He was the general manager of the Toronto Maple Leafs from 2008 to 2013.

### METRO CALL TO ACTION
## #PrideTape picks up steam

**The colourful campaign to banish homophobia from hockey** has support in high places — from NHL executives to generous investors — but it's up to Metro readers to help keep the movement in motion.

The Pride Tape Kickstarter campaign raised $76,147 — more than enough to make 10,000 rolls of rainbow-hued tape. Kris Wells, the professor who spearheaded the initiative, told Metro seven NHL teams have contacted the campaign directly or indirectly to inquire about Pride Tape.

**Do you want your local teams — professional and amateur— to get on board with Pride Tape? Share this story on social media: #PrideTape**

# metroview

## The voting reform idea you've never heard of

**Norm Beach**
For Metro

The first-past-the-post system is widely and justifiably criticized. After all, if you're a Tory in downtown Toronto or a Green supporter anywhere in Canada except Vancouver Island, it seems futile to cast an essentially "wasted" vote.

So millions stay home while millions of others hold their noses and choose someone they don't really want to deny power to someone they hate.

But there's a system under which voters could have their choices directly reflected in Parliament, without adding more MPs, altering electoral districts or setting off a Meech Lake-esque constitutional battle.

It's proportional parliamentary voting (PPV) and, like proportional representation, it's premised on the idea that each party's legislative power should be in proportion to its share of the popular vote.

Under PPV, when the House of Commons votes on an issue, MPs stand and vote individually, as they always have. But any party whose share of the popular vote is greater than its share of seats is awarded additional votes (on paper only — there are no additional MPs).

If this system had been put in place for this Parliament, the House of Commons would consist of 460 votes, with 231 required for a majority. The Grits would have their 184 MPs (their current number). The 99 Conservative MPs, who received 32 per cent of the popular vote, would get 48 additional parliamentary votes for a Conservative total of 147. (The NDP would have 92 votes; the Bloc, 23, the Greens, 14.)

We'd say goodbye to false majorities, strategic voting and "wasted" votes. Except for voters of parties with no seats, every vote would help the party the voter chooses get more power in Parliament.

The Parliament of Canada Act gives the House of Commons the exclusive power to establish its rules and procedures. It could make this change at the end of its mandate; for the next Parliament. This change would not affect the electoral system, so if Canadians don't want first-past-the-post, electoral reform would still be possible.

Clearly, though, proportional parliamentary voting would be a better way to guarantee that no vote is wasted. For the next election, let's finally make every vote count.

**Norm Beach** is a Toronto-based teacher and writer.

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# Saving through uncertainty

NEST EGG

## Putting some money away when income isn't steady

**Michelle Williams**

Not everyone has a job with a regular paycheque and benefits, including a group savings plan. In fact, in today's economy, more and more investors are dealing with instability in their workplace, forcing them to be committed and creative about saving for their retirement.

**Proper investment advice can help you plan for retirement even when your earnings are inconsistent.** ISTOCK

### Working on contract

Ana Pereira, 46, is a project manager who is currently part-way through a five-month contract with Canadian Tire. She earns good money when she's working, but there are sometimes weeks or months between contracts where she has no income.

Pereira owns her home and has worked diligently to pay down her mortgage quickly. She also has a car and some RSP and TFSA savings. While she'd prefer a permanent position because of her financial commitments, the right opportunity has not yet come along.

She admits that during periods of unemployment between contracts, it's difficult to keep her head above water without dipping into savings.

According to Guy Anderson, senior financial consultant at Investment Planning Counsel, someone in Pereira's position should consider using some of the funds she's putting toward her mortgage to top up her TFSA and RSP savings and extend her mortgage payments over a longer period.

"That way, she has a safety net should she have periods of low cash flow due to unemployment between contracts," Anderson says.

### Owning a small business

Lynton Friedman, 41, is a registered psychotherapist who practices hypnotherapy. He also owns Sanlyn Wellness Centre in Thornhill, teaching clients techniques to reduce anxiety, relax and break bad habits.

He's been in business for over 10 years and has recently gone through a period of high growth, but like any service business, there are some months where cash flow is low. While putting money back into his business is important to him, Friedman appreciates the need to be saving for his retirement.

"(He) is at a key time in his life and career to start making some serious strides in his retirement savings," says Anderson. He suggests Friedman talk to his advisor about leveraging RSP savings and the federal government's Home Buyers' Plan so he can purchase his first home.

"He can direct $25,000 from his RSP toward his home without tax penalty if he pays it back over 15 years," Anderson says.

### Freelancing

Matthew Davies, 51, a freelance TV and film composer, experiences ups and downs in income due to music royalties. A few years back, he had a very good income year — but that came with big tax implications. His strategy was to put money into his RSP for the tax deferral, and he also purchased a spousal RSP, since his wife, Ginette, 43, was a stay-at-home mom.

Royalties are dwindling due to changes in the television industry, so Davies and his wife have opened a "spy birthday party" company, Undercover Kids. With startup costs and shrinking music royalties, cash flow continues to be a challenge while they get their new business going.

For them, Anderson suggests, their RSP savings are a handy emergency fund.

"Since three years have passed since the spousal RSP contribution, they can take it out and use it to help with their personal and business expenses," he says. "Because Ginette's income is still not very high, the taxes they're paying on the RSP withdrawal are minimal."

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Concussion raises long-term suicide risk in adults, new research shows

# Delivering birth canal benefits

RESEARCH

## Study may have found way to reduce risks to C-section babies

While passing through the birth canal, newborns are bathed in a mixture of their mothers' bacteria believed to play a role in boosting their immune systems and preventing disease.

So the implications for infants born by caesarean — who don't acquire those important microbes — has been a concern at a time when C-section rates have been rising, accounting for about 28 per cent of Canadian births.

Now a pilot study in the journal Nature Medicine has found there may be a solution.

Researchers reported they successfully transferred the immune-building microbial communities of mothers to their caesarean-born babies by swabbing them with birth fluids immediately after delivery.

"Our study is the first to demonstrate that partial microbiome restoration just after birth is possible in babies born by C-section," said microbiologist Maria Dominguez-Bello, associate professor at New York University's Langone Medical Center and lead author of the study, published last week.

While the study is small, involving only 18 mothers and babies, the results provide important evidence that the principle of transferring healthy bacteria is feasible, added co-author Jose Clemente, associate professor with the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York.

By swabbing the infants immediately after delivery, "we can modify this skin-like microbiota that C-section babies usually get and make it resemble the microbiota of vaginally delivered infants," he said.

Over the first month of life, they found "significant differences" in the bacterial communities of those infants versus the babies born by caesarean but not swabbed.

This is not a procedure currently available for hospital births.

But the research lays the groundwork for future studies to see whether this kind of intervention can reduce the risks of developing such conditions as asthma, allergies, Type 1 diabetes and obesity, which have been associated with caesarean birth.

The pilot study included seven babies born vaginally and 11 by caesarean.

Four of the C-section babies had their mouths and bodies swabbed immediately after delivery with sterile gauze incubated in the mother's vagina an hour before surgery. The research team collected more than 1,500 samples from anal, oral and skin sites from mothers and babies over the next 30 days that they analyzed and compared.

The procedure included careful screening to ensure mothers were not carrying potentially harmful bacteria such as streptococcus B or other infectious bacteria or viruses.

The samples are part of a larger ongoing research project that includes 84 moms and babies who will be followed for a year after birth, said Dominguez-Bello.

But her team felt their initial findings should be reported earlier.

Research suggests that the first 100 days of life are crucial for developing a healthy gut bacteria, says Dr. Stuart Turvey, pediatrician at B.C. Children's Hospital and the University of British Columbia who has conducted researcher with the Canadian Microbiome Initiative.

So the study's findings that it's possible to change the structure of the microbial community in a baby's gut by intervening at birth is encouraging, he said.

It opens the door for researchers to identify healthy bacteria that might prevent diseases such as asthma and think about how to administer those to babies, he added.

"What's exciting about these strategies is they're looking to prevent disease."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

**GOOD GERMS** By swabbing infants with birth fluids immediately after delivery by C-section, researchers found they could modify skin microbiota.

**Babies delivered by C-section have a greater risk of developing asthma, allergies, Type 1 diabetes and obesity.** TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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## EYESIGHT RESPITE

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**3.** Turn your eyes to the left and to the right, pausing to breathe at each location.
**4.** Vigorously rub your hands together until they heat up. Then lightly cup the warm palms over your closed eyes. Breathe deeply and relax into the soothing space behind your eyelids for at least five measured breaths.
**5.** Finish by using your hands to wipe down the face, throat and chest before blinking the eyes open and closed a few times.

**12**
The average person blinks 12 times per minute, but computer users blink only five times a minute.

**JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING**

# Younger's sly laughs ring true

**THE SHOW: Younger, Season One, Episode 3 (E/TV Land)**
**THE MOMENT: The Laugh**

**In Younger, Sutton Foster, left, plays a woman who gets to relive her 20s — and savour them this time.** CONTRIBUTED

Liza (Sutton Foster) and Josh (Nico Tortorella) are finally kissing. She likes him, but she's been resisting this, because she has a secret. Divorced, broke, she was unable to get a job in book publishing until she began posing as someone his age, 26. She's 40.

The kissing escalates. Josh takes off his shirt. He's slim, muscular, covered in interesting tattoos. Liza bursts out laughing.

That laugh — equal parts nervous, amazed (that's how men look now?), and rueful (Liza and her husband had stopped having sex) — is what keeps Younger on the right side of the ridiculous/fun axis.

Show creator Darren Star (Sex and the City) traffics in frothy fantasies, and this one is a whopper: that a woman who rushed into adulthood can relive her 20s, and savour them this time. (Complete with a hipster wardrobe from SATC's costumer, Pat Field.)

Younger has its groaners. The 20-year-olds can be reductively narcissistic, the 40-year-olds bitter or clueless. But as he did on SATC, Star sneaks in several sly truths per episode about how our society pits women against one another, and makes us into our own worst enemies. "She's hit her head on the glass ceiling so many times she's got dementia," a 20-something says about her boss — a funny line, and a state many women know too well.

I also laughed at this one: "Dating in your 40s is like trying to rent out a beautiful apartment where a murder took place. Everyone is spooked." There was rue in my laugh, too.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

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metro SPORTS

The Knicks fired coach Derek Fisher, who accumulated a 40-96 record in a season and a half in New York

NFL

## Agent confirms Lynch's retirement

When Marshawn Lynch was brought to Seattle early in the 2010 season, he was acquired because the Seahawks desperately needed a running back.

What he ended up providing was an attitude and style that became the foundation for bringing the first Super Bowl title to the Pacific Northwest.

And for that, Lynch will forever hold a special place with the Seahawks.

Without saying a word — big surprise — Lynch drew a lot of attention during the fourth quarter of the Super Bowl on Sunday night with a single post on social media. Just a picture, green cleats hanging from a power or telephone line, and a peace sign emoji. It was his way of saying goodbye from football, a decision that his agent Doug Hendrickson confirmed to The Associated Press on Monday saying Lynch intends to retire.

**Marshawn Lynch**
GETTY IMAGES

Lynch, 29, will step aside after nine seasons in the league. Six of those came in Seattle, where he played in the postseason five times. He tied for the NFL lead in rushing touchdowns in 2013 and 2014 and is No. 8 all-time in total yards rushing during the post-season.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### NFL IN BRIEF

**Lawyer: Manziel ruptured ex's eardrum in assault**

Johnny Manziel's ex-girlfriend says in an affidavit that he hit her so hard during a late-night confrontation that she lost hearing in one ear.

As part of proceedings to obtain a protective order, Colleen Crowley suffered a ruptured eardrum, her lawyer revealed.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Super Bowl ratings down from the last two years**

Super Bowl 50 reached an average of 111.9 million viewers, a number down from the past two years.

Still, it represents the third most-watched television event in U.S. history. The Super Bowl had set viewership records for six of the past seven years.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Raptors fire on all cylinders vs. Pistons

**Raptors guard DeMar DeRozan drives for a layup between Pistons Ersan Ilyasova, left, and Andre Drummond on Monday night in Auburn Hills, Mich.** CARLOS OSORIO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

## Toronto wins for 14th time in last 15 games

Kyle Lowry scored 25 points, and the Toronto Raptors went on an 11-2 run at the start of the fourth quarter to pull away for their 14th victory in 15 games, 103-89 over the Detroit Pistons on Monday night.

Terrence Ross added 18 points for the Raptors, who recovered quickly after Detroit's Andre Drummond made a shot from about 80 feet to end the third quarter. Toronto led 70-65 at the start of the fourth, and Lowry's driving three-point play set the tone for the final period. The Atlantic Division-leading Raptors eventually turned the game into a rout, to the delight of the many Toronto fans in attendance at the Palace.

Drummond had 12 points and 13 rebounds for the Pistons.

**23**

**The Raptors have won 23 consecutive games when allowing fewer than 100 points.**

**MONDAY In Detroit**

| 103 | 89 |
|---|---|
| RAPTORS | PISTONS |

Detroit coach Stan Van Gundy said before the game that defence was a point of emphasis for his team, and the Pistons responded well initially, taking a 24-19 lead after one quarter. Toronto was up 49-43 at the half, and although the Raptors looked like they were in control at 62-49 in the third, Detroit scored nine straight points to get back in it.

Drummond's long shot to end the third was only the third three-pointer of his career, but the Pistons couldn't build on it. Lowry and Patrick Patterson made threes early in the fourth to give Toronto an 81-67 advantage, and Detroit was never closer than nine after that.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS


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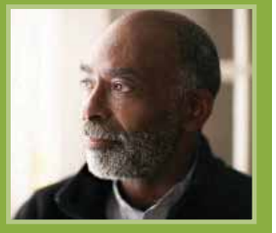

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# 5 SHINY MOMENTS TO WATCH FOR THIS WEEKEND

The NBA's annual mid-season showcase will be as strong as it has been in some time. Here's how the stars will align starting Friday right here in Toronto:

## 1 Kobe's last ride

The farewell tour for **Kobe Bryant** reaches its zenith at Sunday's all-star game. Fans voted him a starter even though he has been a far cry from his once dominant self, but he's found his scoring touch just in time. He's averaging 28.3 points over his last four games.

## 2 Kawhi's debut

San Antonio's **Kawhi Leonard** is making his first all-star appearance. The rising star already has won a Finals MVP and a defensive player of the year award, but his super-quiet personality seems to be anathema to the all-star glitz and glamour. Will he come out of his shell, for at least a day or two?

## 3 Clash of splash

Warriors teammates **Steph Curry** and Klay Thompson headline the three-point contest for a second straight year. Curry won last season, but Klay isn't the only tough competition in a loaded field that also includes James Harden and J.J. Redick. Raptors point guard Kyle Lowry will be the hometown favourite while former Toronto star Chris Bosh's hat is also in the ring. Milwaukee swingman Khris Middleton and Phoenix guard Devin Booker round out the field.

## 4 LaVine's dream

T-Wolves guard **Zack LaVine** put on a breath-taking performance in the dunk competition last year. Some said it was the best since Vince Carter in 2000. LaVine squares off against Detroit's Andre Drummond, Denver's Will Barton and Orlando's Aaron Gordon.

## 5 Big skills

The NBA is trying something new with the annual skills competition this year by allowing big men to compete in the guard-oriented obstacle course. Sacramento's DeMarcus Cousins, Minnesota's Karl-Anthony Towns, Golden State's Draymond Green and New Orleans' **Anthony Davis** are the big guys who will give it a go. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ PHOTOS BY GETTY IMAGES

NHL

# Leafs look to Marlies in search of offence

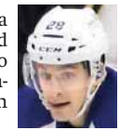
The Toronto Maple Leafs have been struggling to score, managing two goals or fewer in 10 of their last 13 games. The Toronto Marlies lead the American Hockey League in goals.

So as the injury bug hits the Leafs again — the parent club will have to do without forwards Tyler Bozak, Joffrey Lupul and Shawn Matthias — they're going to see if minor-league success can translate to the NHL.

The Leafs recalled Mark Arcobello, Josh Leivo and Rich Clune on Monday. Arcobello leads the Marlies with 20 goals in 34 games.

"He shoots it in the net," said Leafs head coach Mike Babcock, whose team has struggled on offence since James van Riemsdyk was lost to a foot injury Jan. 9. "We expect all the new guys to be good."

The news wasn't good for Bozak, who took a hit to the head in Ottawa on Saturday and left the game to undergo mandatory concussion protocol.



**Mark Arcobello** TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Babcock said Bozak didn't partake in Monday's practice because he "wasn't feeling well." Matthias, the coach said, was suffering from "whiplash," while Lupul "doesn't have an upper-body injury, and he doesn't have a lower-body injury, so let's call it a middle-body injury."

None of the injured players travelled with the club as it left Monday for Tuesday's game in Calgary. Bozak and Matthias could rejoin the Leafs during this four-game road trip. Lupul, however, was placed on injured reserve Monday, meaning he will be sidelined for seven to 10 days. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## IN BRIEF

**Byfuglien staying in the Peg**

Big Buff is off the market.

NHL teams looking to add a rental defenceman before the trade deadline will have to look elsewhere as the Winnipeg Jets signed Dustin Byfuglien to a $38-million US, five-year extension on Monday. The 30-year-old Byfuglien will be part of the Jets' long-range plan at a salary-cap hit of $7.6 million and is relieved he doesn't have to worry about finding a new home this summer as an unrestricted free agent. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Cuban bros 'surrender to merchants of ... profit'**

Cuban infielder Yulieski Gourriel and his younger brother slipped away from their hotel in the Dominican Republic Monday in an apparent effort to launch careers in MLB.

The departure of Yulieski and his brother Loudes was confirmed by Granma, the Communist Party newspaper, which said the Gourriels had left with "an open attitude of surrender to the merchants of professional baseball for profit." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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# RECIPE Roasted Chicken and Grapes

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

**Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh**
For Metro Canada

This unusual combination delivers amazing flavour, both savoury and sweet. It's posh enough to serve to guests but simple enough to whip up on any weeknight evening.

**Ready in**
Prep time: 5 minutes
Total time: 30 minutes
**Serves 4**

**Ingredients**
- 1 Tbsp olive oil
- 4 chicken thighs
- 2 shallots, sliced
- 3 cloves of garlic, minced
- 3 cups red seedless grapes
- 1 cup chicken stock
- 1 Tbsp balsamic vinegar
- 1 Tbsp brown sugar
- 2 Tbsp dried thyme

**Directions**
**1.** Preheat the oven to 400 F.
**2.** In a large, oven-safe skillet, warm up olive oil over medium high heat. Brown — but don't cook through — the chicken thighs, about 3 minutes each side. Remove the chicken from the skillet and place on a clean plate.
**3.** Reduce the heat under the skillet to medium and toss in the shallots and garlic. Cook for about 3 minutes until they soften. Add the grapes, stock, vinegar, sugar and thyme and give everything a good stir. Allow the sauce to begin to simmer.
**4.** Nestle the chicken pieces into the sauce and place the skillet in the oven. Bake for 20 minutes.
**5.** Serve over couscous, mashed potatoes or polenta.

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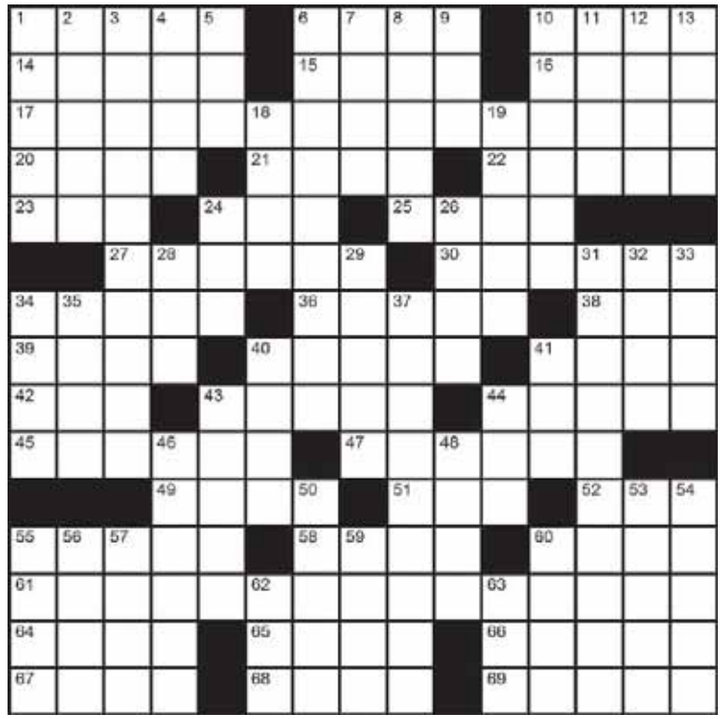
# CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



**ACROSS**
1. Domesticated
6. Vroom, vroom... __ 500
10. Radiate
14. Ms. Cara
15. Drill hole
16. When Jimmy Kimmel is on
17. First World War munitions: 2 wds.
20. Route
21. Aloud
22. Elongated circles
23. Cobbler's tool
24. __ Epstein (Gregory Smith's role on "Rookie Blue" on Global TV)
25. Animal-powered plow contraption
27. "Would you stop already.": 2 wds.
30. Hertz pickup
34. Curved music symbols
36. Elizabeth's nickname, perhaps
38. Annie Lennox's inquisitive hit of 1992
39. Ardent
40. Pesky pet problems
41. Marcel Marceau's job title
42. "You're All __ Got Tonight" by The Cars
43. Military officer, e.g.
44. Ms. Winslet's
45. Grammar topic
47. Afraid
49. Twisted-apart cookie
51. Froms opposites
52. Gives birth
55. Is performing really well
58. Subatomic particle
60. Pinnacle
61. Queen Elizabeth's attendants
64. Allied group
65. Feed the poker kitty
66. Like a TV show that should have been airing: 2 wds.
67. Shakespeare play title starter
68. Madonna's "Live to __"
69. __ __ relax (Calm down)

**DOWN**
1. Fairytale accessory
2. Bow and what?
3. Album of 1984 by Canadian singing star Lee Aaron: 2 wds.
4. British novelist Ms. Bagnold
5. Wilmington's state [abbr.]
6. Mount Caubvick aka Mont d'__ (High peak on the Quebec/Labrador border)
7. Ms. Ephron
8. Laconically
9. Agreeable answer
10. Ten-plus-one
11. __ fide (In bad faith)
12. "__ take a few days." (Waiting-for-something time span)
13. Nastassja Kinski title role
18. Swag
19. Cornball
24. Insult in a hip way
26. Eyeballs
28. Vase variety
29. Daily commute delay cause: 2 wds.
31. Canadian comedy series which starred Don McKellar and Molly Parker: 2 wds.
32. Wistfully sighed phrase: 2 wds.
33. Caustics
34. Locomotes the slopes
35. Canadian comic actor Eugene
37. Showerer's dryer-offer: 2 wds.
40. Obsession, idee __
41. Avril's follower
43. Big
44. PC information units
46. Music chord types
48. Mrs. Chaplin (Charlie's last wife)
50. Speak out
53. "Are too." retort: 2 wds.
54. Musical repetition mark
55. Actress Jessica
56. Referee's decision
57. Matinee star
59. Global, for short
60. Suffix with 'Origin'
62. Roosted
63. Chg. card percentage

# IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

**Aries** March 21 - April 20
If you let things slip, you'll be struggling to catch up for the rest of the week. Stay on top of your workload, no matter how boring it may be.

**Taurus** April 21 - May 21
You can get twice as much done in half the time it takes most other people but that doesn't mean you should. If anything you should be cutting back a bit now. Keep doing it all and others will expect it of you.

**Gemini** May 22 - June 21
Why are some people so irritable? You won't change them, so don't waste time trying. Today's influences will bring out the worst in those who lack self-control, but it will bring out the best in you.

**Cancer** June 22 - July 23
The weather in your neck of the cosmic woods may get a bit blowy today but the long-term forecast is good, so sit tight and ride out the storm. Come the weekend your world will be a brighter and sunnier place.

**Leo** July 24 - Aug. 23
You may be eager to show what you can do but you would be wise not to rush things. If you act too soon, you may only get half what you could have earned if you had waited a day.

**Virgo** Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Have a clear idea of what it is you are aiming for, otherwise you will waste a lot of time and energy on things that don't matter. Make a conscious decision not to get carried away.

**Libra** Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
It may seem as if all sorts of things are going wrong at the moment but it isn't true — relatively speaking your life is a huge success. If you want to be inspired take a look at those who really do have to struggle to get things done.

**Scorpio** Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Listen to friends today. They have a wealth of experience that can be used to sidestep the pitfalls that will appear along your path.

**Sagittarius** Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You can make a name for yourself but only if you are prepared to give up the things that are holding you back. Anything that takes up too much of time, or money, must go.

**Capricorn** Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
If you're planning a trip check and make sure there's nothing that could hold you back. Allow more time for your journey. You'll reach your destination but it may take a while.

**Aquarius** Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Is there some kind of conspiracy that is stopping you from reaching your goal? Maybe there is but more likely it's just your mind playing tricks on you. By all means be wary but don't make accusations.

**Pisces** Feb. 20 - March 20
It is inevitable that you will encounter some kind of resistance. It may be emotional resistance or it may be physical but either way you'll have to find an alternative route.

## CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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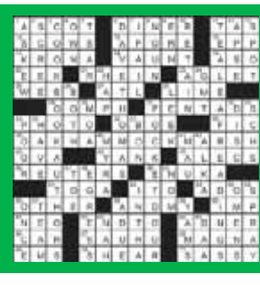

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**This Family Day long weekend, ride UP Express for FREE—Saturday, February 13 through Monday, February 15.**

UP Express is opening its doors to give your family a chance to spend the weekend exploring everything Toronto has to offer.

Maybe you're travelling to visit family. Maybe you just want to take the family to see a show, do some shopping, or visit a great restaurant. Or, maybe you want to head out to the airport to watch the planes take off.

No matter what you choose to do, Family Day weekend is about spending time with the people important to you—and we want you to spend time with us.

UP Express is a dedicated train that speeds from **Union Station** to **Pearson Airport**, with convenient stops near shopping and restaurants at **Bloor** and **Weston**. It's a comfortable and reliable 25 minute ride, with trains leaving every 15 minutes, no matter what's happening on the roads.

## Travel Smarter. Take the Train.

UP is designed for travellers—even if your travel plans are local this Family Day weekend.

UP Express is about superior service and comfortable amenities. After all, travellers are at the centre of everything UP does—with friendly, helpful staff, free Wi-Fi on trains and in stations courtesy of CIBC, airline check-in kiosks where you can print boarding passes and baggage tags, and services like up-to-the minute flight information, charging stations and banking with CIBC multi-currency ATMs. UP also offers level boarding and plenty of storage so bags and strollers are never a worry.

Come and see what great service is all about on UP Express.

**Visit upexpress.com or call 1-844-GET-ON-UP (438-6687) and find out all the ways that UP can host your family this long weekend!**

UP Union Pearson Express

UP ♥ Families

All Family Day weekend, the CIBC UPSTAIRS Lounge at Union Station is offering 15% off food for the whole family—and kids under 12 eat for half price! Plus, we have a family photo contest with great prizes and CIBC travel themed colouring books and paper trains for the kids. Don't miss the fun!

UP Union Pearson Express

### Don't forget Valentine's Day!

UP Express is FREE this Valentine's Day, too. Big, romantic plans for a movie or a dinner? Let us do the driving so you can worry about the mushy stuff.